

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES

ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 19, 1998

Mr. Mark E. Dempsey Assistant City Attorney City of Garland P.O. Box 469002 Garland, Texas 75046-9002

OR98-0766

Dear Mr. Dempsey:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 114221.

The City of Garland (the "city") received an open records request for a particular offense report. You contend that, except for the categories of information specifically made public in *Houston Chronicle Publishing Company v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976), the remaining portions of the requested report are excepted from required public disclosure pursuant to section 552.108 of the Government Code.¹

Section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code excepts from required public disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if . . . release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime." Because you have informed us that the records at issue pertain to a pending criminal prosecution, we conclude that you have met your burden of establishing that the release of the requested information at this time could interfere with law enforcement or prosecution. The city therefore may withhold the portions of the offense report that you have marked pursuant to section 552.108(a)(1). The remaining information must be released to the requestor.

¹It appears that one of the documents you submitted to this office is not responsive to the open records request. We have marked this document accordingly and do not address here the extent to which this document is subject to required public disclosure.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

Haddad

SH/RWP/rho

Ref.: ID# 114221

Enclosures: Marked documents

cc: Mr. Roger Herrera, Esq.

1107 W. Jefferson Boulevard

Dallas, Texas 75208 (w/o enclosures)